

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY SAVANNAH DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS 100 W. OGLETHORPE AVENUE SAVANNAH, GEORGIA 31401-3640

JUL 0 8 2009

JOINT PUBLIC NOTICE Savannah District/State of Georgia

The Savannah District has received an application for a Department of the Army Permit, pursuant to Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. 1344), as follows:

Application Number: 200800529

Applicant: Fort Stewart Army Installation

1550 Frank Cochran Drive, Building 1137

Fort Stewart, Georgia 31314-4927

Agent:

Tidewater Environmental Services, Inc.

P.O. Box 865

Johns Island, South Carolina 29457

<u>Location of Proposed Work</u>: The approximately 676 acre site is located at latitude 31° 54' 34.79" north and longitude 81° 36' 19.17" west, bordered to the north by an unnamed tributary to Taylors Creek, to the east by FS 47 ant to the south by existing buildings and Highway 144, on the Fort Stewart Installation, near Hinesville, Liberty County, Georgia.

<u>Description of Work Subject to the Jurisdiction of the US Army Corps of Engineers</u>: The applicant proposes to fill 1.73 acres of jurisdictional wetlands and 0.47 acres of non-jurisdictional wetlands to facilitate the construction of the facilities and infrastructure that will support the new Infantry Brigade Combat Team (IBCT) Complex. To offset the 2.2 acres of impact to wetland areas the applicant is proposing to deduct 6.6 acres from the Fort Stewart onpost wetland mitigation bank.

BACKGROUND

This Joint Public Notice announces a request for authorizations from both the US Army Corps of Engineers and the State of Georgia. The applicant's proposed work may also require local governmental approval.

STATE OF GEORGIA

Water Quality Certification: The Georgia Department of Natural Resources, Environmental Protection Division, intends to certify this project at the end of 30 days in accordance with the provisions of Section 401 of the Clean Water Act, which is required by an applicant for a Federal Permit to conduct an activity in, on, or adjacent to the waters of the State of Georgia. Copies of the application and supporting documents relative to a specific application will be available for

review and copying at the office of the Georgia Department of Natural Resources, Environmental Protection Division, Water Protection Branch, 4220 International Parkway, Suite 101, Atlanta, Georgia 30354, during regular office hours. A copier machine is available for public use at a charge of 25 cents per page. Any person who desires to comment, object, or request a public hearing relative to State Water Quality Certification must do so within 30 days of the State's receipt of application in writing and state the reasons or basis of objections or request for a hearing. The application can also be seen in the Savannah District US Army Corps of Engineers, Regulatory Division, 100 West Oglethorpe Avenue, Savannah, Georgia.

Georgia Coastal Management Program: Prior to the Savannah District Engineer making a final permit decision on this application, the project must be certified by the Georgia Department of Natural Resources, Coastal Resources Division, to be consistent with applicable provisions of the State of Georgia Coastal Management Program (15 CFR 930). Anyone wishing to comment on Coastal Management Program certification of this project should submit comments in writing within 30 days of the date of this notice to the Federal Consistency Coordinator, Ecological Services Section, Coastal Resources Division, Georgia Department of Natural Resources, One Conservation Way, Brunswick, Georgia 31523-8600 (Telephone 912-264-7218).

US ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS

The Savannah District must consider the purpose and the impacts of the applicant's proposed work, prior to a decision on issuance of a Department of the Army Permit.

<u>Cultural Resources Assessment</u>: Review of the latest published version of the National Register of Historic Places indicates that no registered properties or properties listed as eligible for inclusion are located at the site or in the area affected by the proposed work. Presently unknown archaeological, scientific, prehistorical, or historical data may be located at the site and could be affected by the proposed work.

Endangered Species: Pursuant to Section 7(c) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.), we request from the US Department of the Interior, Fish and Wildlife Service and the US Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, National Marine Fisheries Service, or any other interested party, information on whether any species listed or proposed for listing may be present in the area.

<u>Public Interest Review</u>: The decision whether to issue a permit will be based on an evaluation of the probable impact including cumulative impacts of the proposed activity on the public interest. That decision will reflect the national concern for both protection and utilization of important resources. The benefit which reasonably may be expected to accrue from the proposal must be balanced against its reasonably foreseeable detriments. All factors which may be relevant to the proposal will be considered including the cumulative effects thereof; among those are conservation, economics, aesthetics, general environmental concerns, wetlands, historic properties, fish and wildlife values, flood hazards, flood plain values, land use, navigation, shoreline erosion and accretion, recreation, water supply and conservation, water quality, energy

needs, safety, food and fiber production, mineral needs, considerations of property ownership and in general, the needs and welfare of the people.

Consideration of Public Comments: The US Army Corps of Engineers is soliciting comments from the public; federal, state, and local agencies and officials; Native American Tribes; and other interested parties in order to consider and evaluate the impacts of this proposed activity. Any comments received will be considered by the US Army Corps of Engineers to determine whether to issue, modify, condition or deny a permit for this proposal. To make this decision, comments are used to assess impacts on endangered species, historic properties, water quality, general environmental effects, and the other public interest factors listed above. Comments are used in the preparation of an Environmental Assessment and/or an Environmental Impact Statement pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act. Comments are also used to determine the need for a public hearing and to determine the overall public interest of the proposed activity.

Application of Section 404(b)(1) Guidelines: The proposed activity involves the discharge of dredged or fill material into the waters of the United States. The Savannah District's evaluation of the impact of the activity on the public interest will include application of the guidelines promulgated by the Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, under the authority of Section 404(b) of the Clean Water Act.

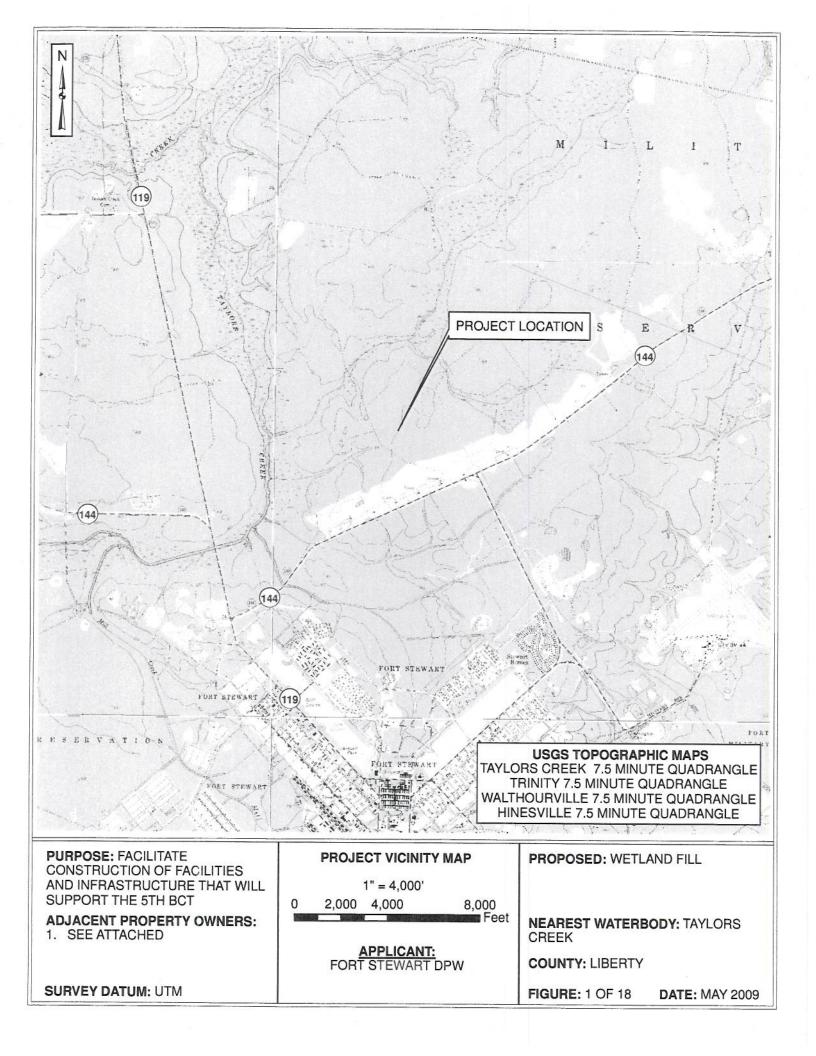
<u>Public Hearing</u>: Any person may request, in writing, within the comment period specified in this notice, that a public hearing be held to consider this application for a Department of the Army Permit. Requests for public hearings shall state, with particularity, the reasons for requesting a public hearing. The decision whether to hold a public hearing is at the discretion of the District Engineer, or his designated appointee, based on the need for additional substantial information necessary in evaluating the proposed project.

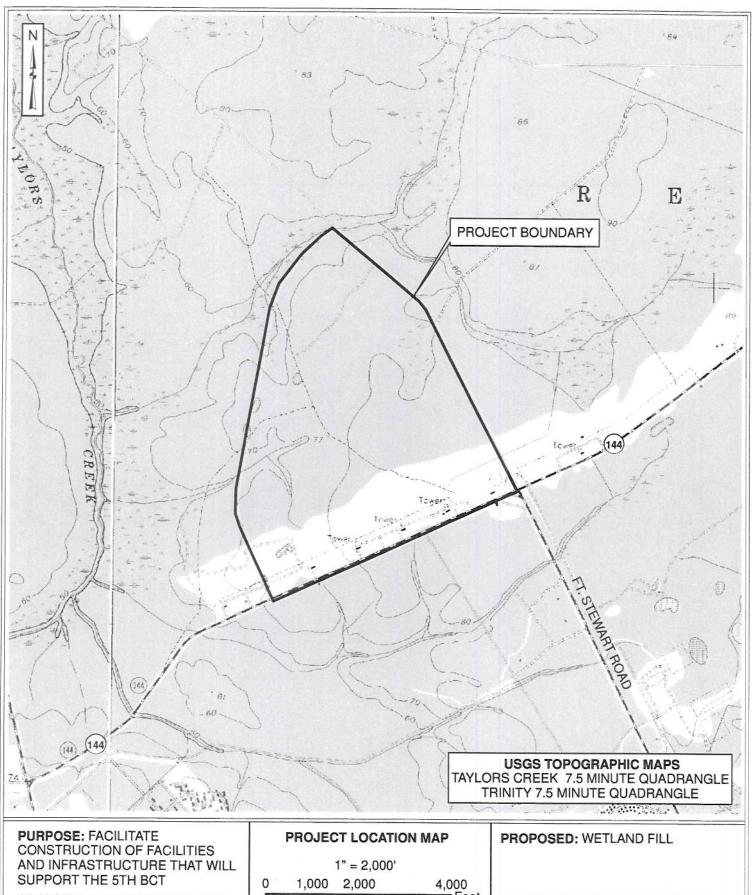
<u>Comment Period</u>: Anyone wishing to comment on this application for a Department of the Army Permit should submit comments in writing to the Commander, US Army Corps of Engineers, Savannah District, Attention: Regulatory Division, no later than 30 days from the date of this notice. Please refer to the applicant's name and the application number in your comments.

If you have any further questions concerning this matter, please contact Mark J. Padgett, at 912-652-5052

Enclosures

- 1. Project Vicinity and Location Map.
- 2. Existing and Proposed Conditions.
- 3. Figure 9, 10, 11, 12.
- 4. Summary.
- 5. Cross Sections a, b, c, and d.





ADJACENT PROPERTY OWNERS: 1. SEE ATTACHED

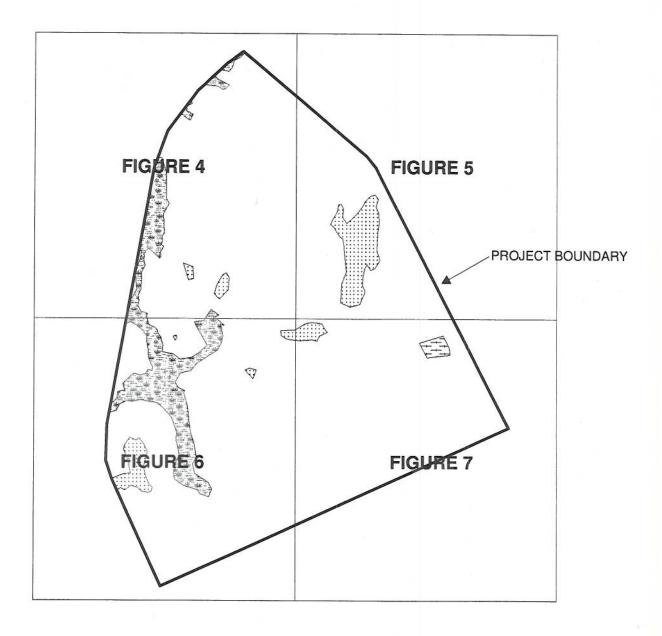
SURVEY DATUM: UTM

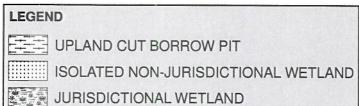
APPLICANT: FORT STEWART DPW

NEAREST WATERBODY: TAYLORS CREEK

COUNTY: LIBERTY

FIGURE: 2 OF 18





PURPOSE: FACILITATE CONSTRUCTION OF FACILITIES AND INFRASTRUCTURE THAT WILL SUPPORT THE 5TH BCT

ADJACENT PROPERTY OWNERS:

1. SEE ATTACHED

SURVEY DATUM: UTM

EXISTING CONDITIONS

1" = 1,400"700 0 1,400 2,800 Feet

APPLICANT: FORT STEWART DPW

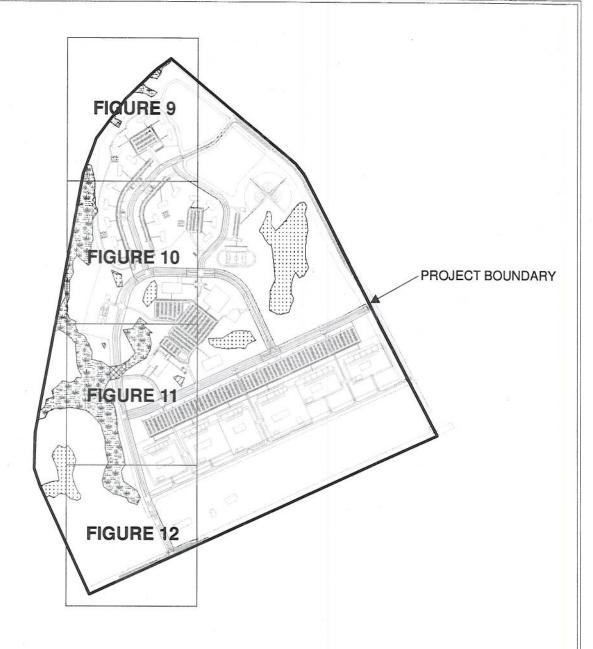
PROPOSED: WETLAND FILL

NEAREST WATERBODY: TAYLORS CREEK

COUNTY: LIBERTY

FIGURE: 3 OF 18





LEGEND

ISOLATED NON-JURISDICTIONAL FRESHWATER WETLAND TO REMAIN

ISOALTED NON-JURISDICTIONAL WETLAND TO BE FILLED

JURISDICTIONAL FRESHWATER WETLAND TO REMAIN

JURISDICTIONAL FRESHWATER WETLAND TO BE FILLED

PURPOSE: FACILITATE
CONSTRUCTION OF FACILITIES
AND INFRASTRUCTURE THAT WILL
SUPPORT THE 5TH BCT

ADJACENT PROPERTY OWNERS:

1. SEE ATTACHED

SURVEY DATUM: UTM

PROPOSED CONDITIONS

1" = 1,400' 0 700 1,400 2,800 Feet

APPLICANT: FORT STEWART DPW

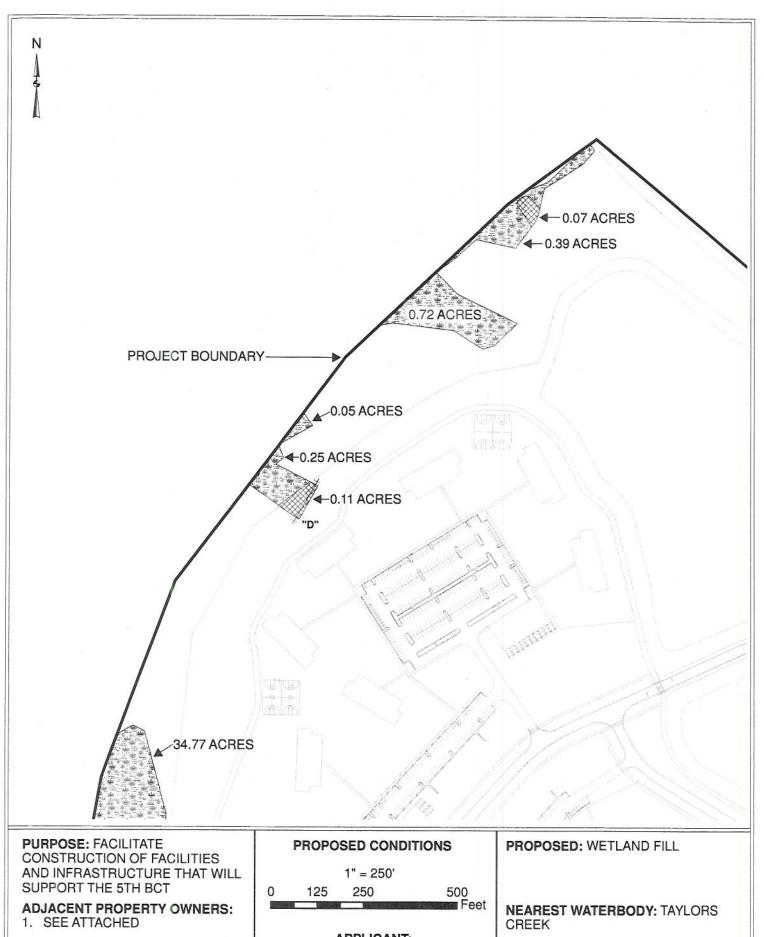
PROPOSED: WETLAND FILL

NEAREST WATERBODY: TAYLORS

CREEK

COUNTY: LIBERTY

FIGURE: 8 OF 18

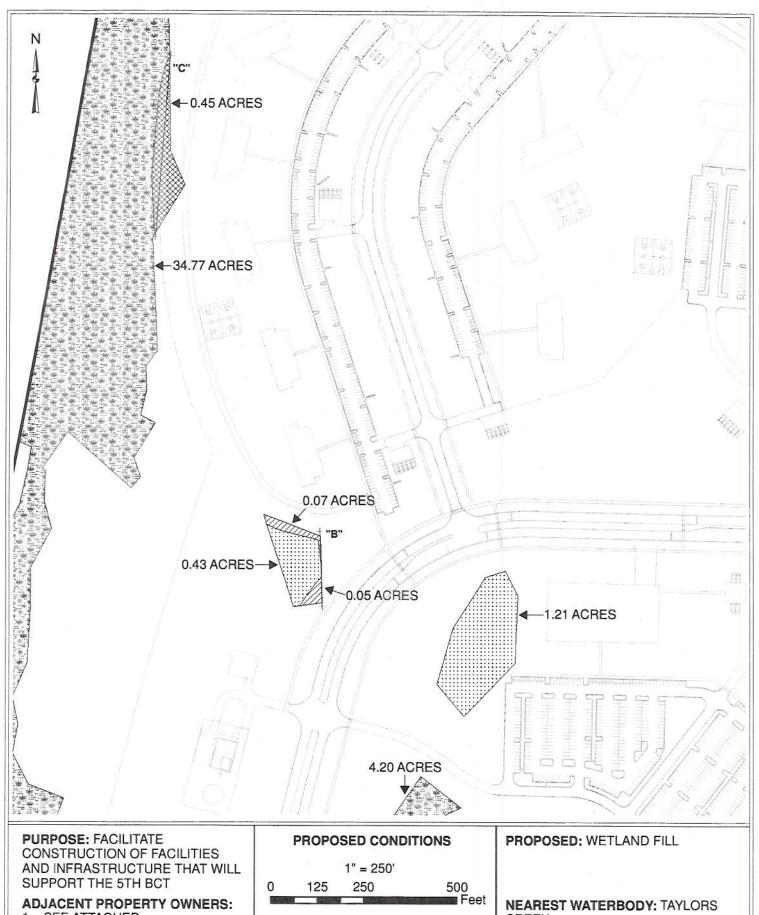


SURVEY DATUM: UTM

APPLICANT: FORT STEWART DPW

COUNTY: LIBERTY

FIGURE: 9 OF 18



1. SEE ATTACHED

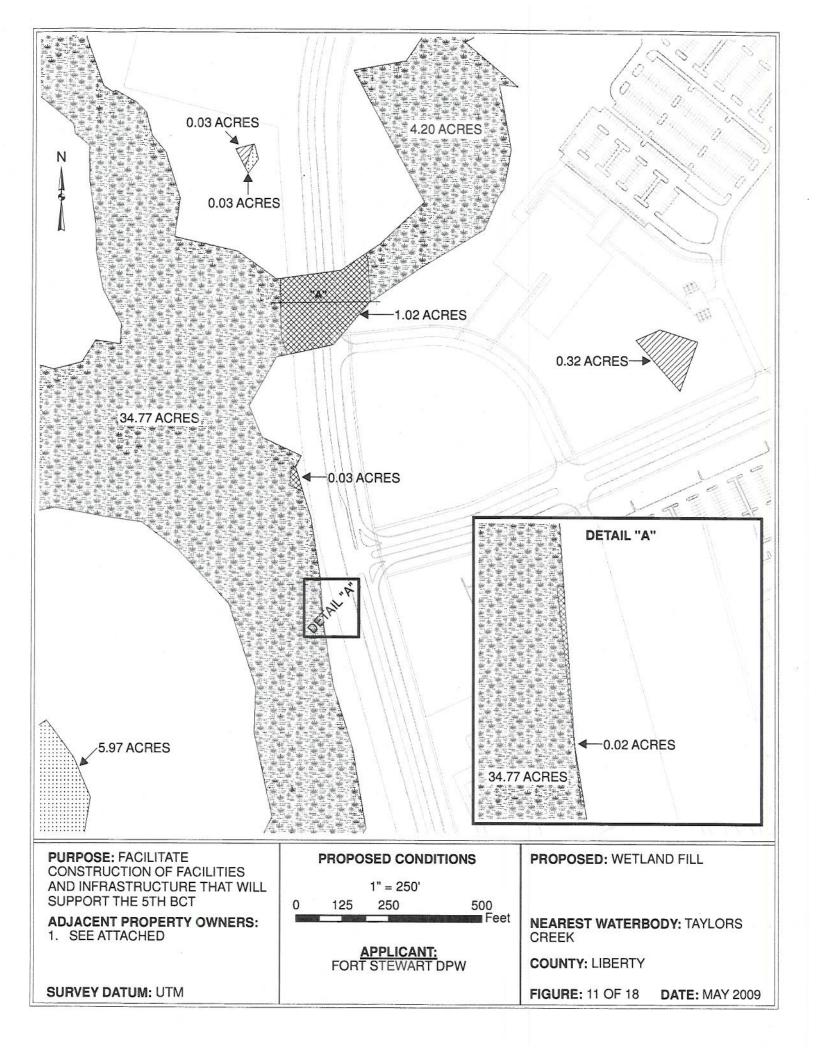
SURVEY DATUM: UTM

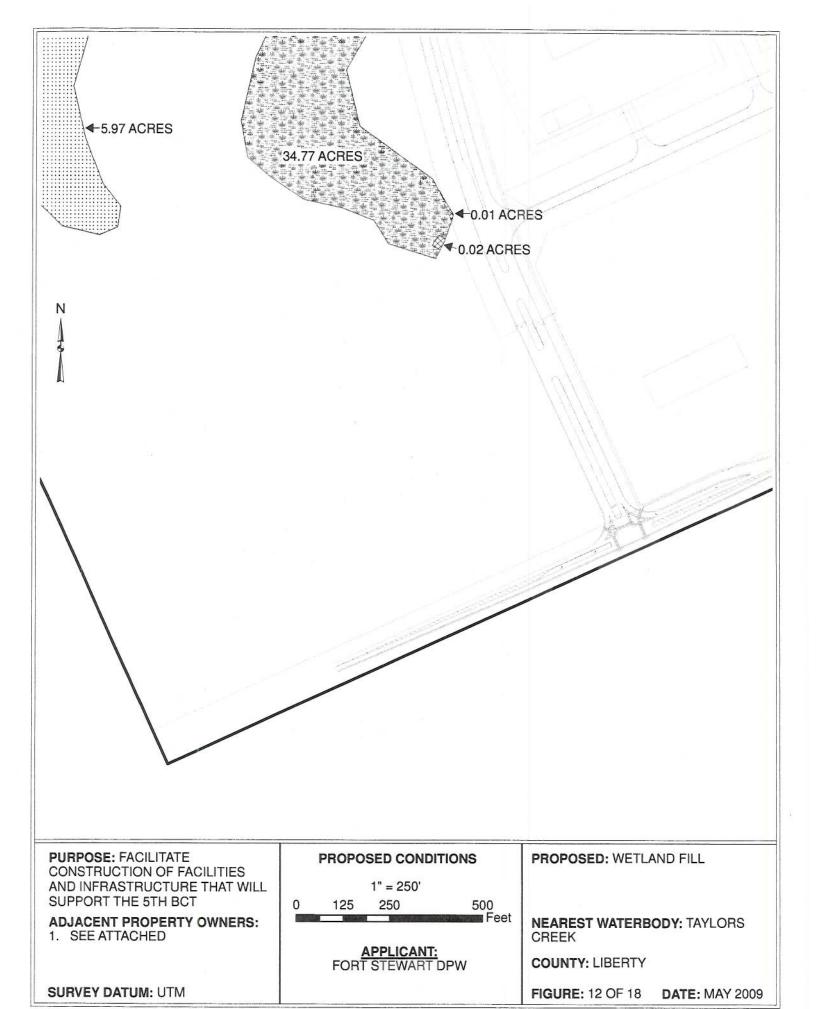
APPLICANT: FORT STEWART DPW

CREEK

COUNTY: LIBERTY

FIGURE: 10 OF 18 **DATE: MAY 2009**





SUMMARY

TOTAL SITE ACREAGE = 676.30 AC. (29,459,628 S.F.)

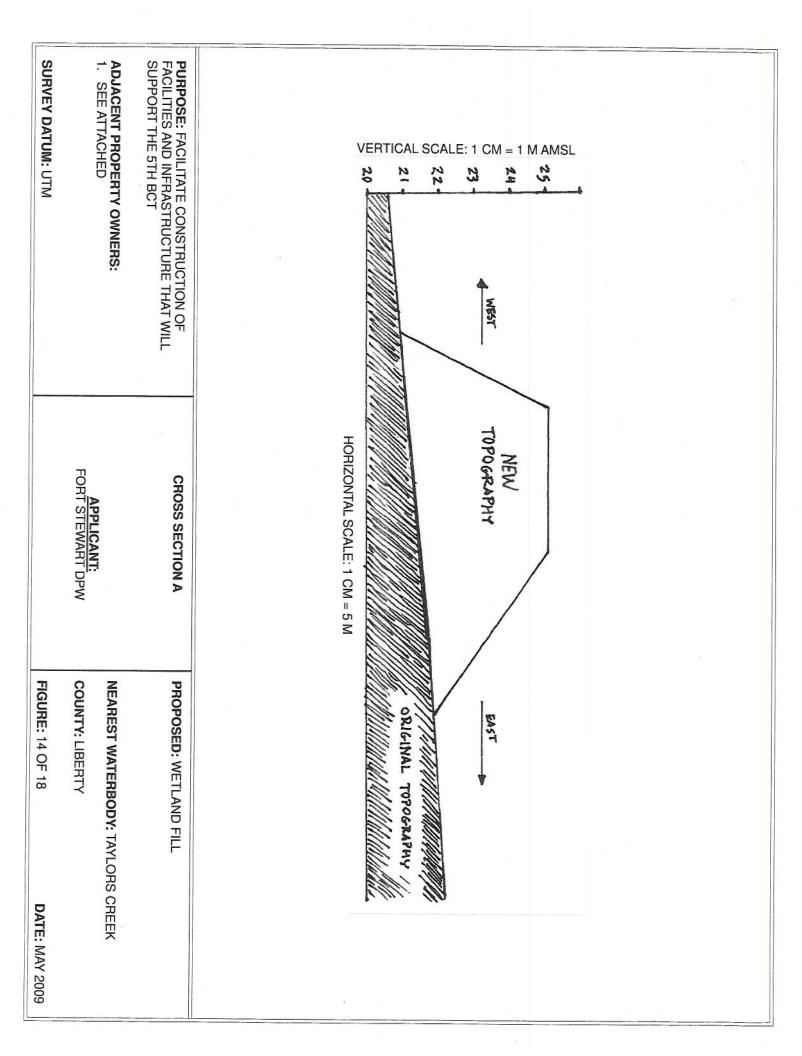
TOTAL UPLAND = 607.10 AC. (26,445,276 S.F.)

TOTAL JURISDICTIONAL FRESHWATER WETLAND = 42.11 AC. (1,834,311.6 S.F.)

TOTAL JURISDICTIONAL FRESHWATER WETLAND TO BE FILLED = 1.73 AC. (75,358.8 S.F.) TOTAL NON-JURISDICTIONAL FRESHWATER WETLAND = 27.09 AC. (1,180,040.4 S.F.)

TOTAL NON-JURISDICTIONAL FRESHWATER WETLAND TO BE FILLED = 0.47 AC. (20,473.2 S.F.)

DATE: MAY 2009	FIGURE: 13 OF 18		SURVEY DATUM: UTM
	COUNTY: LIBERTY	FORT STEWART DPW	
LORS CREEK	NEAREST WATERBODY: TAYLORS CREEK	ADDI CANT.	ADJACENT PROPERTY OWNERS: 1. SEE ATTACHED
	PROPOSED: WETLAND FILL	WETLAND SUMMARY	PURPOSE: FACILITATE CONSTRUCTION OF FACILITIES AND INFRASTRUCTURE THAT WILL SUPPORT THE 5TH BCT



SURVEY DATUM: UTM	ADJACENT PROPERTY OWNERS: 1. SEE ATTACHED	PURPOSE: FACILITATE CONSTRUCTION OF FACILITIES AND INFRASTRUCTURE THAT WILL SUPPORT THE 5TH BCT	VERTICAL SCALE: 1 CM = 1 M AMSL
	APPLICANT: FORT STEWART DPW	CROSS SECTION B	NEW TOPOGRAPHY ORIGINAL TOPOGRAPHY HORIZONTAL SCALE: 1 CM = 5 M
FIGURE: 15 OF 18 DATE: MAY 2009	NEAREST WATERBODY: TAYLORS CREEK COUNTY: LIBERTY	PROPOSED: WETLAND FILL	

